

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (previously presented) An ink set comprising a dark ink composition and a light ink composition that are mutually of a same color, but are of different color density; said dark ink composition and said light ink composition each containing at least a pigment as a colorant, a resin as a dispersant and a resin emulsion comprising a resin component, the resin component of each of said light ink and dark ink compositions being present in each of the respective ink compositions in an amount of 0.1 to 40 wt %; a ratio between resin weight proportion  $B_1$  and pigment weight proportion  $P_1$  ( $B_1/P_1$ ) in said dark ink composition being lower than a ratio between resin weight proportion  $B_2$  and pigment weight proportion  $P_2$  ( $B_2/P_2$ ) in said light ink composition; and said resin weight proportion  $B_1$  in said dark ink composition and said resin weight proportion  $B_2$  in said light ink composition being different from each other.

Claim 2 (original) The ink set according to claim 1, characterized in that relationship between said resin weight proportion  $B_1$  in said dark ink composition and said resin weight proportion  $B_2$  in said light ink composition is  $B_1 > B_2$ .

Claim 3 (original) The ink set according to claim 1, characterized in that relationship between said resin weight proportion  $B_1$  in said dark ink composition and said resin weight proportion  $B_2$  in said light ink composition is  $B_1 < B_2$ .

Claim 4 (previously presented) The ink set according to claim 1, characterized in that difference between ratio between resin weight proportion  $B_2$  and pigment weight proportion  $P_2$  ( $B_2/P_2$ ) in said light ink composition, on one hand, and ratio between resin weight proportion  $B_1$  and pigment weight proportion  $P_1$  ( $B_1/P_1$ ) in said dark ink composition, on other hand, is from 0.01 to 0.5.

Claim 5 (previously presented) An ink set comprising a dark ink composition and a light ink composition that are mutually of a same color, but are of different color density; said dark ink composition and said light ink composition each containing at least a pigment as a colorant and fine polymer particles; a ratio between a fine polymer particle weight proportion  $E_1$  and a pigment weight proportion  $P_1$  ( $E_1/P_1$ ) in said dark ink composition being lower than a ratio between a fine polymer particle weight proportion  $E_2$  and a pigment weight proportion  $P_2$  ( $E_2/P_2$ ) in said light ink composition; and said fine polymer particle weight proportion  $E_1$  in said dark ink composition and said fine polymer particle weight proportion  $E_2$  in said light ink composition being different from each other, wherein a relationship between said fine polymer particle weight proportion  $E_1$  in said dark ink composition and said fine polymer particle weight proportion  $E_2$  in said light ink composition is  $E_1 > E_2$ .

Claim 6 (cancelled)

Claim 7 (previously presented) An ink set comprising a dark ink composition and a light ink composition that are mutually of a same color, but are of different color

density; said dark ink composition and said light ink composition each containing at least a pigment as a colorant and fine polymer particles; a ratio between a fine polymer particle weight proportion  $E_1$  and a pigment weight proportion  $P_1$  ( $E_1/P_1$ ) in said dark ink composition being lower than a ratio between a fine polymer particle weight proportion  $E_2$  and a pigment weight proportion  $P_2$  ( $E_2/P_2$ ) in said light ink composition; and said fine polymer particle weight proportion  $E_1$  in said dark ink composition and said fine polymer particle weight proportion  $E_2$  in said light ink composition being different from each other, wherein a relationship between said fine polymer particle weight proportion  $E_1$  in said dark ink composition and said fine polymer particle weight proportion  $E_2$  in said light ink composition is  $E_1 < E_2$ .

Claim 8 (previously presented) The ink set according to claim 5, characterized in that ratio between said fine polymer particle weight proportion  $E_1$  and pigment weight proportion  $P_1$  ( $E_1/P_1$ ) in said dark ink composition is 0.05 to 1.0 and ratio between said fine polymer particle weight proportion  $E_2$  and pigment weight proportion  $P_2$  ( $E_2/P_2$ ) in said light ink composition is 0.2 to 4.0.

Claim 9 (currently amended) The ink set according to claim 1, characterized in that said dark ink composition is a cyan ink composition and/or a magenta ink composition, and said light ink composition is a light cyan ink composition and/or a light magenta ink composition.

Claim 10 (original) The ink set according to claim 9, characterized in that colorant in

both said cyan ink composition and said light cyan ink composition is a cyan pigment, and colorant in both said magenta ink composition and said light magenta ink composition is a magenta pigment.

Claim 11 (original) The ink set according to claim 10, characterized in that said cyan pigment is one or more types selected from a group consisting of C.I. pigment blue 15:3, 15:4, and 60, and said magenta pigment is one or more types selected from a group consisting of C.I. pigment red 122, 202, and 209, and C.I. pigment violet 19.

Claim 12 (previously presented) The ink set according to claim 9, further comprising a yellow ink composition and/or a black ink composition.

Claim 13 (original) The ink set according to claim 12 characterized in that colorant in said yellow ink composition is one or more types of yellow pigment selected from a group consisting of C.I. pigment yellow 74, 93, 109, 110, 128, 138, 150, 151, 154, 155, 180, and 185, and colorant in said black ink composition is carbon black.

Claim 14 (original) An ink set comprising water-based pigment inks of at least six different colors, namely of black, cyan, magenta, yellow, light cyan, and light magenta, characterized in that:

each of said water-based pigment inks of said six different colors contains a pigment as a colorant and a solvent;

at least said water-based inks of light cyan color and light magenta color each

contains an emulsion having fine polymer particles as dispersoid; and

said emulsions exhibit minimum film producing temperatures of 25°C or lower.

Claim 15 (original) The ink set according to claim 14, characterized in that each of said water-based pigment inks of light cyan color and light magenta color contains 0.1 to 40 wt.% of said fine polymer particles.

Claim 16 (previously presented) The ink set according to claim 14, characterized in that total quantity of said pigment and said fine polymer particles contained in said water-based pigment inks, respectively, is 0.5 to 45 wt.%.

Claim 17 (previously presented) The ink set according to claim 14, characterized in that average particle size of said fine polymer particles is 5 to 200 nm.

Claim 18 (previously presented) The ink set according to claim 14, characterized in that glass transition temperature of said fine polymer particles is - 15 to 10°C.

Claim 19 (previously presented) The ink set according to claim 14, characterized in that each of said water-based pigment inks of six different colors contains a dispersant, and a content of this dispersant is 0.1 to 5 wt.%.

Claim 20 (original) The ink set according to claim 14, characterized in that viscosity

of each of said water-based pigment inks of six different colors at 20°C is from 1 to 10 mPa·s.

Claim 21 (previously presented) The ink set according to claim 14, characterized in that surface tension in each of said water-based pigment inks of six different colors, is 15 to 50 mN/m.

Claim 22 (previously presented) An ink jet recording method comprising providing the ink set according to claim 14, and depositing said ink set on ink jet recording paper to form text and/or images on the ink jet recording paper.

Claim 23 (previously presented) An ink jet recording method for performing printing by discharging liquid drops of the ink composition according to claim 1 and causing said ink drops to adhere to a recording medium.

Claim 24 (previously presented) A recording characterized in that said recording is recorded by an ink jet recording method wherein liquid drops of an ink composition are discharged and those liquid drops are caused to adhere to a recording medium, using the ink set cited in claim 1.

Claim 25 (previously presented) An ink cartridge characterized in that the ink set cited in claim 1 is integrally accommodated therein.